



International Etchells Class

2016 Southern Area Championship



Organising Authority

Royal Ocean Racing Club

Incorporating Royal Corinthian Yacht Club, Cowes



Saturday 9th July – Sunday 10th July 2016

Sailing Instructions

Portsmouth High Water

| Date | Time | HW |
|-------------------------------|------|------|
| Saturday 9 th July | 0318 | 4.4m |
| | 1603 | 4.5m |
| Sunday 10 th July | 0405 | 4.3m |
| | 1644 | 4.4m |

1. Rules

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), rules of the International Etchells Class Association, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 All boats shall carry a marine VHF radio.
- 1.3 Non-owners on loaner boats may compete provided that the boat is insured in accordance with the NOR. This changes the Etchells Class Association Rules.
- 1.4 The Class will provide Bow Sticker numbers which will be displayed 52.5cm back from the bow and 6cm from the shearline. Single digit numbers (e.g. "2") must display the leading zero (e.g. "02").

2. Notices to Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board at Cowes Yacht Haven.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions made ashore will be posted by 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Cowes Yacht Haven flagstaff.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by 'not less than 45 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5. Schedule of Events

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 5.1 | Saturday 9 th July | 1055 | First warning signal | |
| | Sunday 10 th July | 1025 | First warning signal | |
| | | As soon as possible after racing | Prizegiving | Cowes Yacht Haven |

5.2 Three races are scheduled each day but may be altered in the event of an adverse weather forecast.

5.3 Subsequent races will start as soon as possible after the last boat finishes.

5.4 No Warning Signal will be made after 1430 on the last day of racing, unless there is a postponement or general recall during a starting sequence.

6. Class Flags

6.1 The Class flag will be Flag E.

7. Racing Area and VHF

7.1 The starting area/committee boat location will be announced on VHF from approximately one hour before the first Warning Signal.

7.2 The VHF Channel will be Channel 77.

8. The Courses

8.1 The diagrams in Addendum A show the courses, including the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

8.2 In addition to displaying the approximate bearing of the first leg and the course to be sailed, the courses may be announced on VHF.

9. Marks (Windward/Leeward)

9.1 Marks 1, 2, 3 and 3s will be orange inflatable buoys.

9.2 Replacement windward and spreader marks will be black inflatable buoys.

9.3 The starting and finishing marks will be black inflatable buoys.

10. The Start

10.1 The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat, at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.

10.2 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rule A4 and A5

10.3 If flag U has been displayed as the preparatory signal, no part of the boat's hull, crew or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing but not if the race is restarted or resailed or postponed or abandoned before the starting signal. This changes rule 26. (Starting races).

10.4 The scoring abbreviation for a flag U penalty is UFD. This changes A11.

10.5 Sail numbers or bow numbers of individually recalled boats may be broadcast on VHF as soon as practical. Failure to broadcast sail numbers or bow numbers will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

12. Change of the Next Leg of the Course

12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

13. The Finish

13.1 The finishing line is between the staff displaying an orange flag on a committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark.

14. Penalty System

14.1 Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty except where the breach of the rule occurs within the Zone.

15. Time Limit

- 15.1 The time limit for each race shall be 120 minutes.
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be recorded as Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes Rules 35, A4 and A5.

16. Protests, Requests for Redress and Arbitration

- 16.1 Protest forms are available at Cowes Yacht Haven. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to Cowes Yacht Haven Protest Deck within the protest time limit. Contact mobile phone numbers must be included on the protest form.
- 16.2 The protest time limit is 105 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 16.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at Cowes Yacht Haven, beginning at the time posted.
- 16.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.5 Breaches of sailing instructions 19, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27 and RRS 55 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.
- 16.6 On the last scheduled day of racing a request to reopen a hearing shall be delivered:
 - (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
 - (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.
- 16.7 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 16.8 RYA Arbitration will be available. The procedure is described on the RYA website (www.rya.org.uk) under Rules Disputes. The exoneration penalty will be a 20% scoring penalty in accordance with RRS 44.3 (c). Arbitration requests shall be delivered within the protest time limit. Contact mobile numbers must be included on the form.

17. Scoring

- 17.1 Six races are scheduled and 3 races are required to constitute a series.
- 17.2 When four or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race score.
- 17.3 When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This changes RRS A2.

18. Safety Regulations

- 18.1 All boats shall sail on starboard tack close to the stern of the committee boat and hail their bow number or sail number prior to the start of the first race each day. At the same time, a boat shall notify the Race Committee if any of their sails carry different sail numbers to that registered on Yacht Scoring.
- 18.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible on VHF, or by hailing an official regatta support boat/rib.

19. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

- 19.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without written approval of the Race Committee.
- 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the race committee. Requests for equipment substitution shall be made in writing to the race committee.

20. Equipment and Measurement Checks

- 20.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and Sailing Instructions. On the water, a boat may be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

21. Official Boats

- 21.1 The main committee boat will fly a blue RORC flag with a white border, crown and Seahorse.
- 21.2 All other race committee boats will fly white flag with a blue Seahorse.

22. Support Boats

- 22.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals a

postponement, general recall or abandonment.

23. Haul-Out Restrictions

23.1 Boats shall be afloat before 1630 on the day before the Regatta begins.

23.2 Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and in accordance to the terms of the prior written permission of the Race Committee.

24. Diving Equipment and Plastic Pools

24.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around competing boats between the end of registration and the end of the Regatta.

25. Radio Communication

25.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. The Race Committee may broadcast information to competitors on VHF both before and during a race. Failure to receive or transmit shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

26. Risk Statement

26.1 RRS 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'

26.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

26.3 They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;

26.4 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;

26.5 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

26.6 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

26.7 The provision of a race management team, committee boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.

27. Insurance

27.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per event.